



This document includes the Section 2.0, Applicable Laws and Standards, of the Draft EPA "Weather Deck Runoff Discharge Assessment Report" published in 2003. The reference number is: EPA-842-D-06-007

DRAFT

Discharge Assessment Report

Weather Deck Runoff

Section 2.0 – Applicable Laws and Standards

2003

2.0 Applicable Laws and Standards

2.1 Introduction

This section describes applicable U.S. and International law that is relevant to the deck runoff discharge.

Applicable International Law, Standards, and Conventions

2.2 No international standards for deck runoff were identified.

2.3 Applicable U.S. Law

There are no U.S. laws that specifically apply to “deck runoff.” However, implementation of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and Executive Order 13148, “Greening the Government through Leadership in Environmental Management” addresses the release of some constituents that contribute to the environmental impact of the deck runoff discharge.

- CWA, § 311(b)(3) prohibits discharges of oil or hazardous substances in harmful quantities into the navigable waters of the United States and the contiguous zone. EPA has by regulation of 40 CFR 112 and 40 CFR 300 defined the amounts of oil and hazardous substances, respectively, that are considered harmful. Current practices aboard armed forces vessels, if codified, would help ensure that constituents in weather deck runoff do not exceed harmful amounts.
- State numeric and narrative water quality standards, which may vary by designated usages of individual water bodies, are set under the authority of the CWA. States use such standards to regulate both point and non-point sources. Environmental effects analyses, performed to support the development of discharge standards, compare constituent concentration levels and other characteristics of the discharges to appropriate State water quality standards.
- Executive Order 13148 requires Federal leadership in environmental management (Office of the President, 2000). Agencies are mandated to promulgate policies that incorporate pollution prevention (P2) planning. "Each agency shall advance the national policy that, whenever feasible and cost effective, pollution should be prevented or reduced at the source," (Office of the President, 2000). Complying with this instruction reduces the amount of constituents in deck runoff.